



DIFFERENT & EQUAL
TE NDRYSEM & TE BARABARTE

2021

ANNUAL REPORT



Vizion: “We believe in a society without trafficking, exploitation, abuse or discrimination where everyone’s rights are respected and they are free to pursue opportunities equally “



Mision: D&E is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing high quality reintegration services for victims of trafficking, exploitation and abuse, and to improving the legal, institutional and social context to prevent and counter these violations of human rights.



Different & Equal



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Advocacy



Mentoring



PM. Alternative care for children



Free Legal Service



Residential services



Community services



Revenue-generating activities



Studies / Research



Staff training



Community awareness



Support for policy-makers



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Projects implemented during January - December 2021

1

"Providing comprehensive reintegration services and improving the protective framework for victims of trafficking in Albania" Donors: Pro Victimis Foundation; UNOHCHR; Funded by the United Kingdom -British Embassy Tirana lead by UNICEF; Porticus; Ministry of Health and Social Protection; Tdh/JTIP; GIZ; AMSCA

2

"Cooperation between CSOs and groups of former victims of trafficking and domestic violence for the economic empowerment of victims". Donors: European Union as part of the program for the support of civil society and media 2016-2017

3

"Provision of alternative (morning and afternoon) child care services. For the children of mothers who are rebuilding their lives" Donors: Funded by the United Kingdom -British Embassy Tirana lead by UNICEF, AAPSK

4

Increasing efforts to identify victims/potential victims of trafficking through Mobile Units (MLUs) Donors: Funded by the United Kingdom-British Embassy Tirana lead by UNICEF, AAPSK

5

"Small steps can make a big difference" Donor: PORTICUS

6

"Supporting the Municipalities of Tirana, Elbasan and Vlorë in analyzing, acquiring and implementation of new models / schemes for socio-economic integration for survivors of gender-based violence" Donor: UN WOMEN

7

"Providing economic reintegration programs for at least 80 survivors of DHBGJ in the municipalities of Kukës, Dibra, Korça and Berat" Donor: UN WOMEN

8

"Providing comprehensive reintegration services, economic empowerment and social inclusion for victims of domestic violence, gender-based violence and their children in Albania" Donor: UNDP

9

"Empowering trafficking survivors for participation and representation in the struggle against trafficking" Donor: American Embassy

10

"Increasing access to justice for victims of crime through the provision of free legal aid" Donor: Austrian Development Cooperation and implemented by UNDP in partnership with the Ministry of Justice



BENEFICIARIES OF THE PROGRAM

During the period January - December 2021, they were assisted in total in the reintegration program of the organization **173 cases and 174 their children.**

- 105 cases assisted during this period are victims/possible victims of trafficking and 34 of their children.

- 68 cases are victims of sexual abuse and domestic violence and 140 of their children.



Categories of beneficiaries assisted in the program:

CATEGORY	Total cases of assisted in the program during the period January - December 2021	Cases carried from December 2020	New cases in program during the period January - December 2021
Victims of trafficking / Victims of possible trafficking	105	75	30
Children of VeT cases accompanied by their mothers	34	25	9
Victims of sexual abuse and domestic violence	68	29	39
Children of VDH cases accompanied with their mothers	140	56	84
Total	347	185	162



Profile of Cases Victims / Potential Victims of Trafficking

Gender	Number of cases carried	Number of new cases	Total
Females	53	22	75
Male	22	8	30
TOTAL	75	30	105

Age	11-15	16-18	19-21	21 over	Total
No. of carried cases	6	29	4	36	75
No. of new cases	8	11	2	9	30
Total	14	40	6	45	105

Status	Single	Married	Divorced	Widowed
No. of cases	88	6	6	

Form of exploitation	No. of new cases
Sexual exploitation	18
Forced labor	
Forced marriage	1
Criminal activity (Theft)	8
Sexual exploitation & forced labour	
Sexual exploitation & begging	2
Begging & criminal activity	1

The place where they were trafficked	No. of new cases
Albania	26
Germany	3
Kosovo	1



Resource of referral for new assisted cases during January - December 2021

Referral sources	No. of cases
MU Shkodra	4
MU Tirana	12
Police Directorate - Berat	1
Another Vision	1
Solwodi	3
Directorate of Social Services - Lezhe	1
QKPVT	1
Violence Coordinator Kamez and Kukes Municipality	2
PMF 9, PMF Kashar, PMF 12, PMF Vora	4
Field Community Center	1
Total	30

The countries from which the victims of trafficking come:



30% Rural Area



70% Urban Area

PROFILE OF CASES VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE

Gender	Number of cases carried	Number of new cases	Total
Female	27	39	66
Male	2	0	2
TOTAL	29	39	68

Age	11-15	16-18	19-21	21 over	Total
Number of cases carried	-	-	-	29	29
Number of new cases	1	3	-	35	39
Total	1	3	-	64	68

Status	Single	Married	Divorced	E/i ve
Number of cases	18	3	46	1



Resource of referral for new assisted cases during January - December 2021

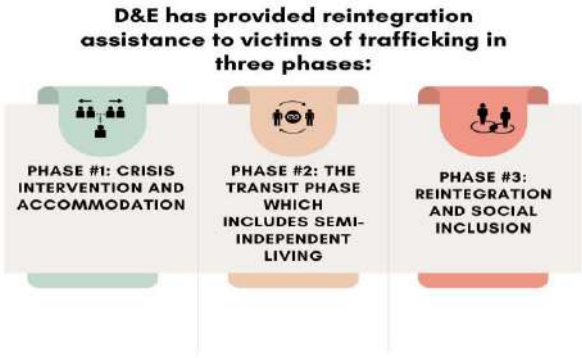
Referral sources	No. of cases
Streha Per Gra Dhe Vajza Te Dhunuara	2
Solwodi	3
Kordinatore Dhunes - Bashkia Tirane/	6
Shoqata Gender, Paqe dhe siguri	2
Te Drejtat E Njeriut Në Demokraci	2
Qendra per Nisma Ligjore Qytetare	2
Njesite Ad. nr.7, Kashar, Njesia 12 , Njesia 4, PMF 11	9
Global Care Albania	1
Mary Ward Loreto	2
Referuar nga individë	3
CRCA	3
Forumi i Gruas Elbasan	2
MU Tirana	1
QKTVDHF	1
Totali	39



D&E programs implemented during January – December 2021

Project: "Providing comprehensive reintegration services and improving the protection framework for victims of trafficking in Albania"

Donor: Pro Victimis Foundation; UNOHCHR; Unicef; Porticus; Ministry of Health and Social Protection; Tdh/JTIP; GIZ; AMSCA





A full package of reintegration services is provided to beneficiaries of the D&E reintegration program:

- ✓ Housing, security and re-integration plan;
- ✓ Immediate medical assistance;
- ✓ Negotiation/mediation with the family;
- ✓ Psychological assessments and counseling;
- ✓ Legal support and assistance;
- ✓ Assistance for registration/continuity of the school system;
- ✓ Professional trainings;
- ✓ Social activities; Mentoring;
- ✓ Counseling and help for employment;
- ✓ Financial support for housing;
- ✓ Information on the services that exist in the community such as and necessary contacts/map of services; Programe pune që krijojnë të ardhura;
- ✓ Assistance and support for children of victims of trafficking;
- ✓ Monitoring and follow-up of program beneficiaries.

In addition to direct assistance with the beneficiaries, D&E has also worked to support the victim's family - for example, the children of the beneficiary, assistance to the parent of a minor to find a job, family counseling, etc.

Services provided for each case during the three phases of the program include:



Health services

The D&E doctor has done the medical evaluation of the new cases entered in the program and addressed and treated the medical needs of all the beneficiaries of the program and their children. For each new case entered into the program, *routine analyzes such as complete blood, biochemical balance, and also abdominal echo, graph and other more specific examinations are done in cases of need.* Cases that encountered health problems were referred to relevant specialists and were treated with medications. The most frequent health problems encountered by the beneficiaries were mainly infectious (viral, bacterial and fungal), dermatological, ocular, dental and gynecological, etc.

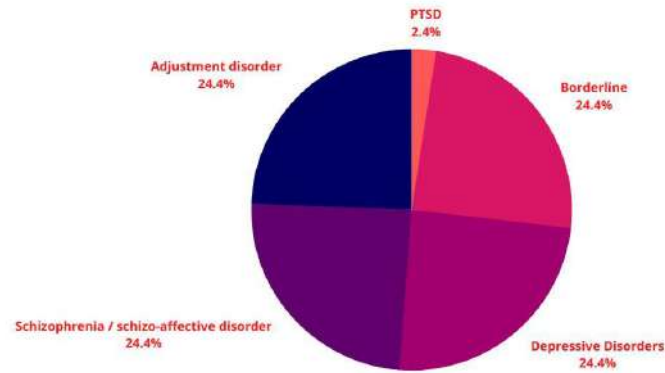
Different topics about COVID-19, symptoms, care for hygiene, preventive measures for all cases in the organization's reintegration program were developed with the beneficiaries. During this period, tampons were given to shelter girls with symptoms of COVID-19, of which only one tested positive.

Thanks to the cooperation with INTERMEDICA laboratories, all cases and analyzes that include a control have been made full laboratory in cases of infection by the coronavirus, facilitating effective subsequent treatment. In cases that have had health problems, they have had the flu vaccine as well as the vaccine for COVID-19.



Mental health problems

10 beneficiaries with mental health problems have been regularly followed by psychiatrists receiving appropriate treatment on an ongoing basis.



D&E has collaborated with Albanian University - Dentistry Branch, through which free dental services have been provided to the beneficiaries of the program. D&E has cooperated with several health institutions such as: Polyclinic No. 9, ISHP, Institute of Hygiene, Polyvalent Emergency of QSUT and Psychiatric hospital. All beneficiaries of the program have been provided with a Health Card, near Pol. no. 9.



Psycho-social counseling

Psychological and psycho-social counseling, art therapy, occupational therapy, are the activities organized within the framework of psycho-social assistance. All these activities aim at the psychological well-being of the beneficiaries.





Psychological counseling

A psycho-social assessment was made for the cases that entered the program. **514 individual counseling sessions were provided by the psychologist.** During this period, the issues addressed in the counseling sessions were: Depression, anxiety and sleep disturbances, mood disorders, post-traumatic stress, etc. Part of the process has been the education and integration of knowledge/techniques by the beneficiaries to alleviate symptoms and improve quality of life.



TERAPIA E ARTIT

Art therapy always has a positive effect on the beneficiaries as it is a liberating and relaxing activity. A total of 49 art therapy sessions were organized with the participation of 17 beneficiaries with the following themes: Escape to nature, Freedom, My passion, Secrets, Dedication, My emotions, Abuse, Portrait "Me in the eyes of others".



PUNË KREATIVE
DHE TERAPI
OKUPACIONALE

During this period, 30 sessions of occupational therapy were organized with the participation of 17 beneficiaries. Some of the organized activities have focused on working with different materials: work with shells, works with wire, with plaster, with plasticine, artificial flower works with paper, decorating vases, collages, recyclable materials, various ornaments, making masks for Halloween, Festive decorations, Making postcards with different decorations, etc.



Psycho-social counseling

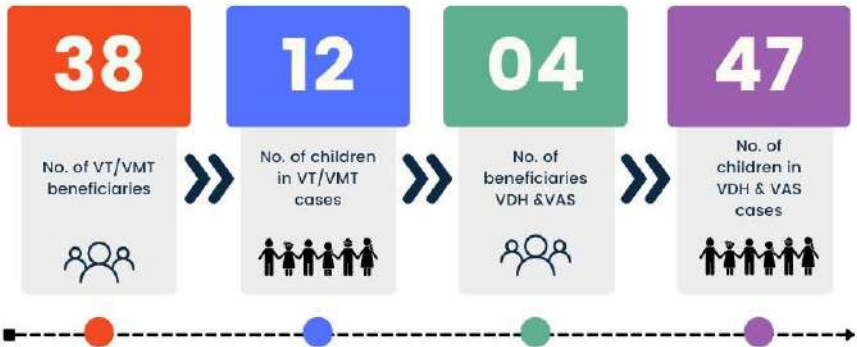
2708 individual sessions of psycho-social counseling were provided by case managers. Issues brought up in counseling are primarily related to employment, interpersonal relationships, family mediation, empowerment, time and income management, decision-making and choices, parenting, education, self-care and independent living. In continuation, the sessions have also been related to the provision of information on COVID-19 and the created situation in general, as well as the orientation of the beneficiaries to receive the necessary services.



Education and schooling

An assessment to determine the educational level of each beneficiary in the program is carried out by the D&E teacher and based on this assessment an educational - teaching plan is developed as part of the reintegration plan of each beneficiary.

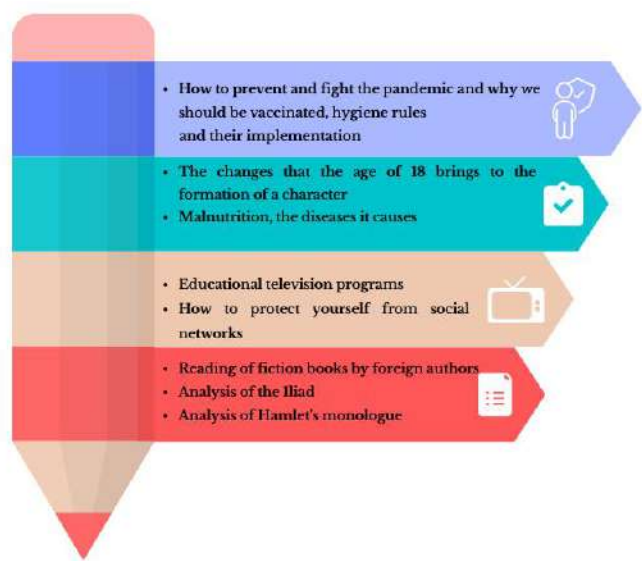
During this period **42 beneficiaries and 59 children** have been supported and attended school at different levels.



During the year 2021, all cases that continue school have been contacted and continuously helped in case of need, such as; the beneficiaries in Shelter, in the families and the children of the beneficiaries. All the beneficiaries who have attended the school, have been interested, even though in the difficulty of the pandemic for the conditions of the development of the lesson, they have been supported to successfully complete the tasks assigned by the school.

In the first half of this year, the beneficiaries attended the online lesson, having the opportunity to accessed through tablets, phones and other devices provided by the organization. For the registration of cases in the school, it cooperated with the Regional Education Directorate as well as the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth. All cases are equipped with books and school supplies.

Topics covered during this period:



Legal aid

D&E has provided legal assistance to all beneficiaries in the program through D&E's lawyer. During the reporting period, all beneficiaries of the reintegration program were informed about their rights and were supported with legal assistance according to their needs.

Legal evaluations have been carried out for each new case entered into the program.

30 cases have been supported by the D&E lawyer in their criminal, civil or administrative cases. Thus, out of 33 cases, 13 were criminal, 19 civil and 1 administrative.

- Cases have been represented in the Court of First Instance mainly for: divorce, protection order, placement in alternative care, domestic violence denunciation, trafficking denunciation, theft committed in collaboration (minor), sexual abuse denunciation.
- 1 foreign beneficiary has been supported to obtain the identity card and passport through the embassy as well as the temporary residence permit device.

- An application has been made for the opening of a business of a beneficiary through the E-Albania application, which has been provided with registration certificates.

The provision of support and legal information is provided regarding: the court process for divorce, authorization for abroad, documentation for the benefit of the rent bonus, information on the law "For foreigners" (residence permit and work permit equipment), equipment with identity card, children's rights, the rights of the victim in criminal proceedings, the right to denounce in case of a criminal offense, payment as a victim of trafficking, information about the progress of the case at the prosecutor's office and court, information about the execution of the court decision, information on the law "On legal aid guaranteed by the state", information on the acceleration of the process in the Court of Appeal, information on the guardianship of minors, information on the law on the status of orphans, information on the law on domestic violence, information on the division of the property", information for the appeal to the Superior Kemp.

The D&E lawyer has organized sessions with beneficiaries discussing various legal topics focused on:



Social assistance



Social - cultural activities

During this period, several social activities were organized for the beneficiaries. Activities are organized both inside and outside the reintegration center.

The activities organized *inside the shelter* were:



A series of activities have been organized outside the shelter with an entertaining and informative character.

Some activities organized *outside the shelter* were:

Excursions

- Visit to "Dajit Adventure Park";
- Visit to the city of Belsh, walk, lunch;
- Visit to Kruja Castle.

Events

- Activity for the end of the year
- Valentine's Day and Women's Day celebration
- Attending swimming pools
- Attending the Beach

Accompanying the beneficiaries to:

- Theater
- Church/mosque
- Walk
- Play corner for mothers with children





Mentoring program


During this period, **3 mentors** have provided individual support on a weekly basis to several beneficiaries of the program. Mentors provide support on a weekly basis in accordance with the needs of the cases and the ways in which they are planned by both parties. This service is offered through periodic activities and meetings. The activities organized during this period are selected from the cases according to their interests and wishes, some of them aim to educate and inform the beneficiary, other types of activities are relaxing activities such as sports, picnics, etc. D&E constantly offers individual and group supervision for mentors, so the mentoring process is effective for the beneficiary and the mentor himself.


Activities organized at the D&E Education Center

Several activities have been organized for the beneficiaries at the D&E Education Center based on the weekly schedule of activities.

- 

The film club is organized every week at the Education and Training Center and aims not only to entertain but also to educate. In addition to watching a selected film, time is devoted to discussion about the film's theme, history, etc.
- 

Book club: Beneficiaries have had free access to the books of the Education Center. Every month they choose a book and discuss it in a friendly and warm environment.
- 

Compasito, a manual for children's human rights education, is another activity organized at the Education Center.
- 

Psychological counseling was provided to the beneficiaries of the second and third phase of the program by the D&E psychologist and psycho-social counseling by the case managers. Counseling sessions are organized in the counseling room at the D&E Education Center.

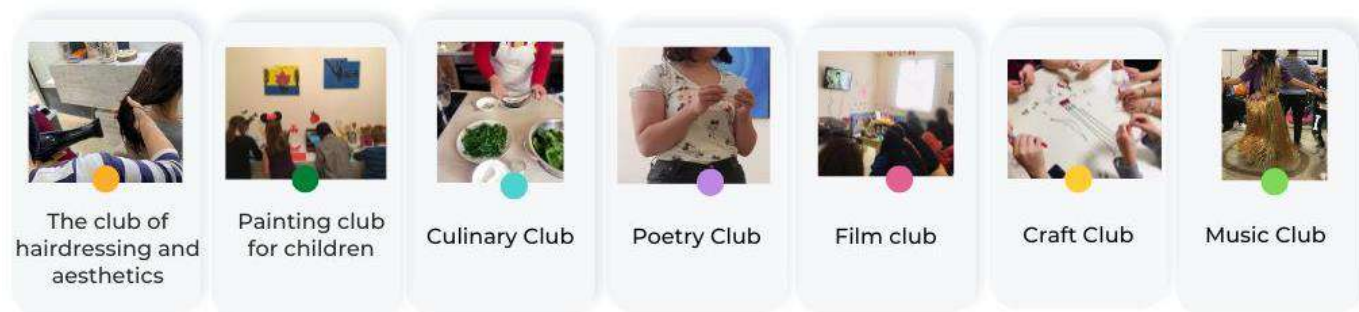


Activities organized in the Social Cause Club

Activities were also organized in the Social Cause Club, which was designed to serve as an informal common place for victims of trafficking and domestic violence

and their children, to socialize, organize activities and provide support services, it also serves as a resource center - sharing information on where to go for help and also serves as a fundraising point. A small area within the club is dedicated to the care and entertainment of children of mothers attending activities such as training and/or other peer support activities. Various activities are organized in the Social Club where the beneficiaries have participated based on their desire and interest.

Some of the activities are:



Monitoring and subsequent follow-up of program beneficiaries

The beneficiaries of the second and third phase of the D&E program are supported with all services in the community based on their needs. The progress of reintegration cases is monitored by case managers. Monitoring is carried out on a daily, weekly and monthly basis; monitoring is done by case managers during the work shift. Weekly and monthly monitoring is carried out on a regular basis by the case manager of each case and the reintegration coordinator.

The monitoring of the beneficiaries was carried out through direct meetings, as well as through regular telephone contacts. ***During this period, 2450 monitoring sessions were provided to beneficiaries of the second and third phase of the program by case managers.***

The staff has monitored and made direct meetings with the beneficiaries who live in their cities of origin such as Shkodër, Durrës, Kavajë, Thumanë, Korce, Fier, Pogradec, Gramsh, etc.

27 cases have been empowered and are living independently. In total, 101 victims /potential trafficking victims are monitored by D&E staff.



Information on community services

D&E staff provide ongoing support to cases by providing them with necessary information about existing services in the community.

A map of community services is distributed to beneficiaries, who in some cases are accompanied directly by their case managers to get to know these types of services firsthand. Beneficiaries are informed of their right to benefit from economic assistance such as VoT and they are supported in compiling the necessary documents.

As long-term housing for victims of trafficking is a challenge, D&E case managers have continued to provide support and guide beneficiaries of the second and third phases of the program in preparing the documents required for application to the housing schemes of the Municipality of Tirana.

○ Increasing efforts for the economic empowerment of victims/potential victims of trafficking.

Employment Training & Vocational Courses

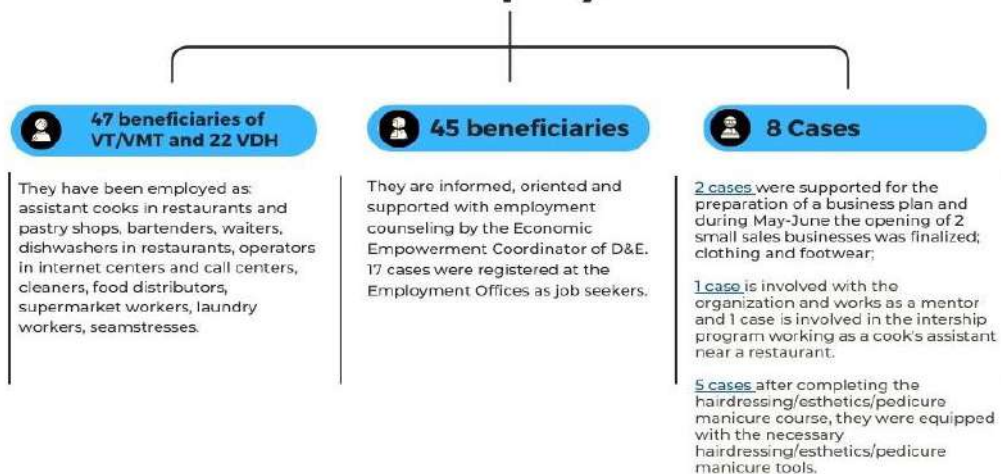


Some beneficiaries have attended more than one course, based on individual skills and wishes.

Courses & Professional Training

No.	Courses	Offered by	No. of cases
1.	Cooking course	Vocational Training Center 1, ATC Neranxi	5
2.	Hairdressing course	Vocational Training Center 1 Private vocational school	4
3.	Aesthetic course	Professional Training Center 1	2
4.	Manicure/Pedicure course	Professional Training Center 1	4
5.	French course	Private Foreign Language Center	1
6.	Italian course	Private Foreign Language Center	2
	English course		2
	German course		2
7.	Course "Care for the elderly"	Professional Training Center 1	2
8.	Painting course	Center TEN Private course	2
9.	Empowerment through self-defense (online)	ESD Albania / Aikido	6
10.	Counseling towards Employment	D&E in collaboration with the Labor Office	10

Employment Counseling and Employment



D&E has supported program beneficiaries in their efforts to enter the formal labor market. The D&E staff continuously guides the beneficiaries to choose professions in demand in the labor market, adapting in each case to their personal skills. Beneficiaries are trained on how to present themselves to the employer, how to have an effective communication with the employer, but also how to succeed at work, how to prepare a CV, a letter of motivation, etc.

D&E has a close cooperation with Employment Offices and various private companies. All D&E program cases are registered with the Regional Employment Offices.

Project: Cooperation between CSOs and groups of former victims of trafficking and domestic violence for the economic empowerment of victims.

Donor: European Union as part of the program for the support of civil society

At the end of January, the third year of implementation was completed and the entire project "Cooperation between CSOs and groups of former victims of trafficking and domestic violence for the economic empowerment of victims" financially supported by the European Union - as part of the program for Civil Society and Media Support 2016-2017, implemented by the "Different & Equal" organization in partnership with the Center for Family and Children (KMOP) in Greece.

The project aimed to empower civil society organizations in Albania, in providing reintegration services for victims of trafficking/domestic violence and to achieve a harmonious social inclusion of former victims, mainly through increasing their level of employment.

The four areas where the project was implemented were:



During the month of January 2021, several closing activities of the project were carried out for the 4 areas where the project was implemented and with the inclusion of 7 subcontracted partner organizations for the implementation of special projects in the areas mentioned above.

As during 2020, also during the month of January 2021, activities were developed under the conditions dictated by the difficulties created due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, during the month of January, the following activities took place:

Trainings with beneficiaries

During the period 20-31 January, about 15 beneficiaries received professional training from 9 different trainers.

The trainings were done at the theoretical and practical level targeting several areas related to their specific needs such as a self-care course, a cooking course, a craft course and the creation of a virtual social club



VIRTUAL SOCIAL CLUB -The organization of this training was born as a need to adapt to the conditions of the pandemic and in order to ensure the continuity of the activities of the Social Club even virtually. The beneficiaries first received a theoretical training on online communication platforms, then individually with each of them individual trainings were held on the practical use of electronic tablets as well as the use of online platforms.

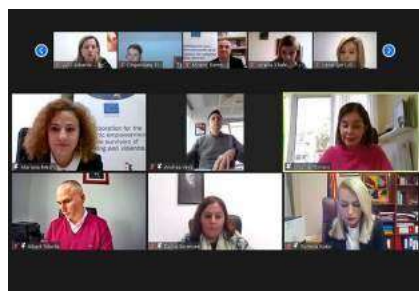


The second aid package to cope with the situation caused by COVID_19

With the support of the donor, during the month of January 2021, a second aid package was made possible for the beneficiaries of the project (survivors of violence and trafficking). The aid package consisted mainly of providing basic items such as food and hygiene items, as well as covering one-month apartment rental payments for the beneficiaries who were living on rent. Before compiling the final list of beneficiaries of the second aid package, an assessment of the needs of the beneficiaries was made in close cooperation with the case managers, in order to select those beneficiaries who were in a more difficult situation. Some of the beneficiaries were girls and women who had lost their jobs due to the pandemic situation and had a lack of mbështetjen e donatorit, gjatë muajit janar 2021, u mundësua një paketë e dytë ndihme për përfituesit e projektit (të mbijetuarit e dhunës dhe trafikimit).

significant income to cover their needs. In total, 30 women and girls and 38 of their children have benefited from this second aid package. 20 girls and women were provided with food packages and hygiene items, including payment of rent for one month, and 10 others were supported only with food packages and hygiene items. In the reactions made after the assistance was provided, this package proved to be a great support for them and all the beneficiaries were grateful for the help given and for the support of the donor.

Final conference to close the project



At the end of the project, in cooperation with the partner organization KMOP in Greece, on January 21, 2021, the closing conference was held through the "zoom" platform on the Internet. The main purpose of this Conference was to present the results of the project. The main speakers of the table were: Mr. Andrea Vera - Head of the Economic Reform and Social Development Sector - European Delegation; Mr. Albert Nikola Deputy Minister

- Ministry of Health and Social Protection; Ms. Romina Kuko, Deputy Minister - Ministry of the Interior; Ms. Dajna Sorensen, Deputy Minister - Ministry of Finance and Economy; Ms. Mariana Meshi, Executive Director of D&E, as well as Dr. Antonia Torrens, General Director - KMOP. Part of the activity were also representatives of 7 partner organizations (Jobis, Center for Human Rights in Democracy (HRDC), Counseling Center for Women and Girls, Arsis - Initiative for Change, Plan & Go) who presented the results for each of the projects that they implemented in the 4 areas where the project was implemented. In total, 92 people participated in this Conference, including representatives of partner Institutions and NGOs, experts in the field and other guests.



The conference ended with the launch of an awareness video spot conceived by survivors of trafficking and violence which focused on the success story of a survivor of violence and trafficking. This true story told through this awareness spot aimed to mobilize as many girls and women as possible to seek help and report on the phenomenon of domestic violence and trafficking.

Also, the latest innovation of this project was having an official website of the Social Cause Club.



PROJECT: OFFERING ALTERNATIVE SERVICES (MORNING AND AFTERNOON)

- **Children of mothers who are former victims of trafficking and victims**

Donor: Funded by the United Kingdom -British Embassy Tirana lead by UNICEF, Giz



"Grandmother's House/The Other House" is a community service that provides care for children of victims of trafficking and domestic violence to receive proper care in the afternoon and grow up in a calm, safe and cared for environment just like the children of others, beyond the official schedule of nurseries, kindergartens and public schools (from Monday to Saturday).



Care and supervision
Care for Hygiene and Health Food
and nutrition



School/homework support
Emotional support and learning positive social behaviors
Games



Informing the mother and consulting with her regarding child care
Observing the child's behavior and reporting suspicions of neglect,
abuse or exposure to violence



Psychological/Medical Assessment and Support
Needs Assessment and Care Planning
Transportation/Walking



Referral of mothers and children for necessary assessment and treatment
Parenting support for mothers

Children who attend this service have shown significant and lasting improvement in their emotional and psychological well-being, in the learning process and in achieving better results at school.



The service was established and operates on the basis of cooperation with local government units. A part of the operating costs for the operation of the service and the facilities are provided by the Municipalities of Tirana, Elbasan and Shkodër, while other costs are covered by the financial support of donors.

Increasing efforts to identify victims/potential victims of trafficking through Mobile Units (MLUs)

Donor: Funded by the United Kingdom -British Embassy Tirana lead by UNICEF, AAPSK

During the period January - December 2021, the Moving Unit of Tirana and Shkodra has carried out a series of activities which include:



Direct contacts in the field:

Shkoder and Tirana Moving Unit: During the January-December period, MU Shkodër and Tirana contacted **64 institutions** and individual representatives of the institutions.

Purpose of contacts with the institutions and with the individuals was the obtaining of information about the cases vulnerable to trafficking and the presentation of the activity of the MU. Also, in these field meetings, the service that D&E offers to victims of trafficking was presented. Contacts have been developed with individuals who have knowledge in the area, with social administrators and nurses of the respective areas, school psychologists and child protection workers.

During this period, families referred by community liaisons were met in different areas of the two counties. Also, family visits were made, information was collected and observations were made on the situation of families and the need for protection/services. A total of **92 adults** and minors were contacted. The work in the field has included certain areas, identified by MU Tirana and Shkodra as areas where there are problems of children in street situations, begging, etc.



Cases identified by MU:

“30 Possible Victims of Trafficking and 8 of Their Children”

Were identified during the period
January - December 2021
from the Moving Unit Tirana and Shkodër

Focus groups made with vulnerable groups



The Mobile Units have conducted focus groups with the Roma and Egyptian Community, Children and young people aged 10-25, vulnerable communities from the Region. Issues such as: Identification of needs and utilization indicators, the risk of trafficking, reporting methods, etc., were addressed.

Information sessions



The Mobile Units have conducted ***information sessions with the staff of Health Centers, community centers*** as well as ***41 information sessions in schools***. During the sessions in the schools, there was a participation of 781 students in cooperation with the school psychologist, the head of the school and topics such as: Protection of children from Trafficking, Ways of reporting, Identification of VMT, etc. were addressed. MU Shkodër has also held information sessions at ***2 border points Muriqan and Hani i Hoti***. MU Shkodër has carried out an activity / installation in Pukë - Placing sensitizing messages to blue hearts by young people and citizens.

Training with professionals



The Mobile Units have carried out 7 professional trainings with 118 professionals such as Social Workers, Health Center Employees, Child Protection Workers, Institutional Representatives, ZVAP Psychologists where issues such as: Identification of VMT as well as Rights of victims of criminal offenses have been addressed , victims of trafficking and their reintegration.

Collaborations with institutions, partners and Focus Groups realized

The Movement Units have conducted focus groups with the community liaisons in Kavajë, Community liaisons from Ward 4, 5, Synej, Bago, Golem, Memzotaj, Cikalles, Seferaj, Luzi sloje, Mamël, Helnes, in Vore with the participation of PMF Vore, Liaison of the community in the areas of Vore Qender, Marqinet, Preze, Gerdec, Picar, Kashar with the participation of PMF Kashar, Community Liaison in the areas: Yrsheke, Kus, Mazrek, Kashar area 1 and 2, Katund i Ri, Dajt. The issues dealt with are related to the discussion on vulnerable families in the relevant areas, identification of VMT persons or in need of protection. There was a collaboration with Child Protection Workers and School Psychologists for the realization of the sessions.

Project: "Small steps can make a big difference" Cooperation between "Different & Equal" in Albania and the University_Bedfordshire in the United Kingdom.

Donor: Porticus

Period: July 1, 2020 - September 31, 2022



"Small steps can bring a big change", is an action research project with the participation of young people with the aim of researching the perspectives of young people in Albania regarding seeking help and justice after experiencing sexual violence.



The project "Small steps can make a big difference" aims to identify the experiences of children and young people who have experienced sexual violence in the criminal justice system and in the child/victim protection system in Albania.

During this period, several activities were carried out:

- Selection of a group of girls (beneficiaries of the program) to be included in the project.
- Informative session about the project, informed consent and contract for young researchers.
- 3 meetings were held to address some sensitive topics to understand more about some concepts, being part of a group - rules, etc.
- Since January 2021, 8 workshops have been organized, related to: Research Methods, How to do a good research, etc. where the researchers, together with 2 facilitators, were trained via the Zoom platform (due to the situation) by an expert of Bedfordshire University and meetings are facilitated by D&E staff
- It was continued with several meetings for the drafting of the questionnaires (where the researchers decided to conduct direct interviews with the complainants).
- The selection of respondents (it was made on the basis of several criteria: they had to be part of the beneficiary organization, had experience with law enforcement institutions, age 16-25)
- During the month of July - August 2021, 13 interviews were conducted, and at the same time, the researchers and their transcription were done.
- September - October 2021 data collection from questionnaires was done.

Project: “Support of Tirana, Elbasan and Vlora Municipalities in analyzing, acquiring and implementing new models/schemes for socio-economic integration for survivors of gender-based violence”

Period: 1 Agust 2020 – 31 December 2021

Donor: UN WOMEN

Project: “Providing economic reintegration programs for at least 80 survivors of DHGBJ in the municipalities of Kukes, Dibra, Korça and Berat”

Period : JUNE 2021 – NOVEMBER 2022

Donor: UN WOMEN



01 THE FIRST PROJECT

"Supporting the Municipalities of Tirana, Elbasan and Vlora in analyzing, adopting and implementing new models/schemes for socio-economic integration for survivors of gender-based violence" within the UN Joint Program "Ending Violence against Women", financed by the Swedish Government and implemented by UNDP, UN Women and UNFPA, in cooperation with the Government of Albania"

02 THE SECOND PROJECT

"Providing economic reintegration programs for at least 80 survivors of GBV in the municipalities of Kukes, Dibra, Korça and Berat" with the support of UN Women, within the Program "End violence against women in the Western Balkans and Turkey, PHASE II" financed by the European Union.

03 PURPOSE

The purpose of the two Projects is to increase the capacities of local authorities in the Municipalities, Tirana, Elbasan, Vlora, Kukës, Dibër, Korçë, Berat, as well as other CSOs for the adoption and implementation of effective models for the socio-economic integration of survivors of GBV, contributing directly to the improvement of the protection system for GBV survivors.

D&E is collaborating with three partner organizations:



The activities organized during the implementation of the projects include:

Conducting a study:

1

In the framework of the implementation of the first project, the ***"Model for the re/integration of survivors of gender-based violence"*** was drawn up. The design of the model was preceded and based on the study ***"Reintegration of survivors of gender-based violence"***, which aimed to research and explore in depth the package of re/integration services for victims and survivors of gender-based violence in the ***Municipality of Tirana , Elbasan and Vlora*** as well as to identify the needs for the implementation of reintegration models.

The model focuses on and emphasizes the need for long-term and focused services on the social and economic empowerment of victims of gender-based violence in order to rehabilitate them after the past traumas of abuse and violence, and sustainable reintegration to live an independent and free life. fell prey to further abuses.

This document was discussed with the Intersectoral Technical Team of the Municipality of Tirana, Elbasan and Vlora through three organized workshops, for receiving recommendations and suggestions based on the experience of each ETN member and its inclusion in the Action Plan for Gender Equality was discussed. The study will be published and shared widely with relevant stakeholders at the national and local level.

2

Within the framework of the second project, the first draft of a study has been prepared in the other four municipalities, on the possibilities to develop successful models and plans for the reintegration of survivors of the DHBGJ. The development of plans for economic reintegration will be led by the results of research in these municipalities as well as the models and plans that were created in the municipalities of Tirana, Elbasan and Vlora.

Capacity building of local authorities and civil society organizations in Tirana, Vlora and Elbasan through training. A capacity building program has been developed and delivered to local authorities and civil society organizations to increase their skills in supporting the reintegration of survivors of gender-based violence and to address their needs in the implementation of the plans their socio-economic.

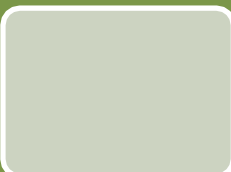
THE TRAININGS ARE ORGANIZED:



On October 19 in Tirana
with the participation of 20
professionals



On October 21 in Elbasan
with the participation of 15
professionals



On November 17 in Vlora
with the participation of 16
professionals

Implementation of models and assistance: Support of Municipalities for the development of socio-economic integration plans for women victims of domestic violence and all other forms.

1

Within the first project:



93 Victims of Violence With
Gender Basis



and their 189 children

They are
supported with
services based
on their needs
and according to
the adapted
reintegration
plan





Within the second project:



48 Victims of Violence With Gender Basis



And their 95 children



The cases received a complete package of services such as:

Psychological Counseling, Legal Aid, Medical, Counseling and Support for Employment, Housing and Financial Support for apartment rental payments, Support for food and hygiene packages, Support for economic empowerment, etc.



Close monitoring of the implementation of plans:

It is being carried out through the adapted scheme at the local level and the main components of the plan will be part of it. This activity helps to understand the success factors, obstacles faced by survivors of gender-based violence and local authorities during the implementation of socio-economic plans and to take the necessary measures to deal with them.



Cooperation with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection for the development of recommendations for the expansion and application of this initiative in other Municipalities of Albania.

Project: “Providing comprehensive reintegration services, economic empowerment and social inclusion for victims of domestic violence, gender-based violence and their children in Albania”

Donor: UNDP

Period: Agust 2021 – April 2022



The aim of the project is to provide comprehensive reintegration services for women and girls, victims of GBV, children and their families through cooperation with NRM and Local Coordinators against Domestic Violence at the local level.



27 Victims of Gender Based Violence

And 55 of their children have been supported with services based on their needs.

The cases have received a complete package of services such as: Psychological Counseling, Legal Aid, Medical, Counseling and Support for Employment, Housing and Financial Support for apartment rental payments, Support for food and hygiene packages, Support for economic empowerment, etc.

Within the 16 days of activism against violence, D&E has organized a series awareness activities:



D&E has prepared a leaflet with information on types of violence, services for victims of violence and contacts to seek help, etc. The leaflets were distributed during the activities organized during these days.



An awareness video has been prepared by survivors of gender-based violence, beneficiaries of the D&E organization. Through this video, they wanted to show how they managed to survive the violence and how they are rebuilding their lives with the help of services. Also through help contacts, the video invites and encourages any person who has experienced violence to react and report. This video has been widely shared on social networks.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8cG0AL24Cc0>



A useful info sheet with key contacts for help was produced and posted in public places for customer service. The information sheet contains emergency numbers to seek help and report violence and a range of services available to a victim of violence. This leaflet is placed in the offices where many citizens seek services, such as in the municipality, in administrative units and in health centers.



On December 2, as part of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, D&E held an information session at the 9-year-old school "Kongresi i Lushnje" with representatives of the Student Government of this school. 22 students, psychologists and school child protection workers participated in this informative session. The purpose of this informative session was to make students aware of gender-based violence, the forms of violence, where to go if they see or experience violence and how the law protects them from this phenomenon. All students were very active in the discussion.



On December 2, at the tailor shop "DONIANNA", D&E staff distributed informational materials to the women and girls who work in this tailor shop. Then a focus group was organized with a group of 12 girls and women where gender-based violence, forms of violence, where to go if they see or experience violence, how the law protects them from this phenomenon and the services offered were discussed.



On December 7, D&E held a focus group with 10 women and girls from vulnerable groups in Vorë Municipality, where informative materials were distributed and violence as a phenomenon, its prevention and the support services that a survivor of violence can benefit from were discussed.



On December 9, D&E staff conducted a focus group with 11 women and girls from a fashion factory in Kavaje. During this focus group, gender-based violence was discussed, how widespread this phenomenon is, the forms of violence, where to go if we see or experience violence, how the law protects us and the support services offered.

Project: Empowering trafficking survivors for participation and representation in the fight against trafficking

Period: Jyly 2021 - May 2022

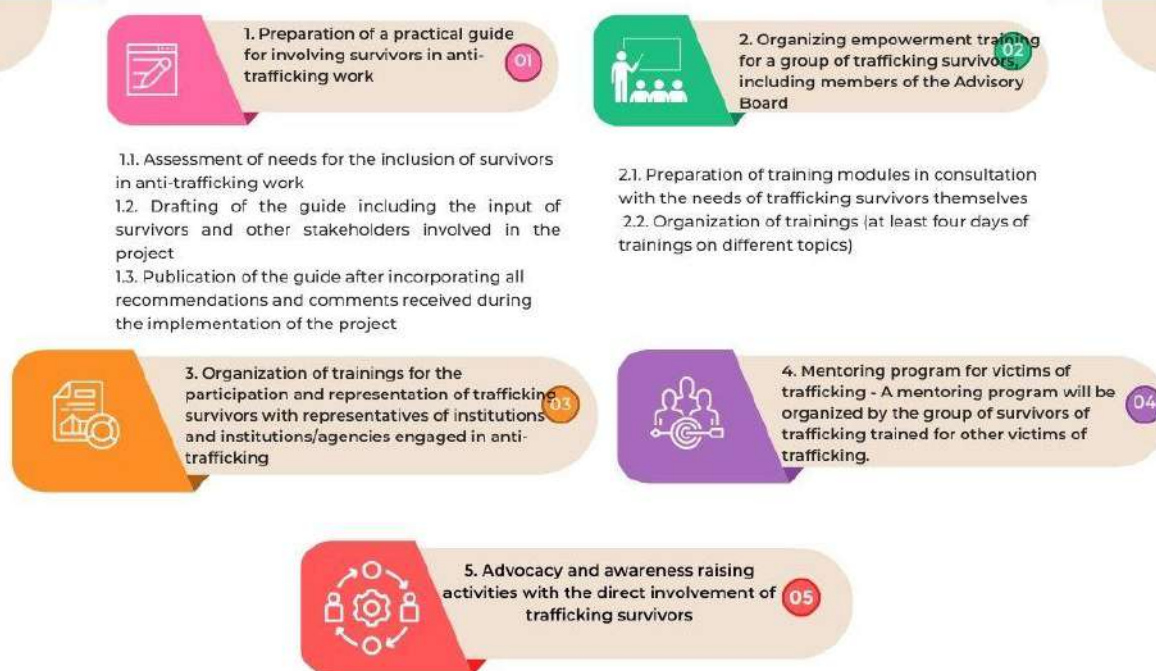
Donor: US Embassy - Commission for Democracy Small Grants Program

This project aims to empower survivors and improve anti-trafficking work by increasing the involvement of trafficking survivors themselves. Through this project, it is intended to create the conditions and capacities for trafficking survivors and anti-trafficking institutions to work together in equality to improve child protection and anti-trafficking work. Project methods and activities include training, development of guidelines, mentoring and consulting for service delivery.



The main goal of the project is to create an enabling environment for the safe participation and representation of trafficking survivors in anti-trafficking work and to bring victims of trafficking into a more prominent and useful role in the protection of survivors .

PROJECT ACTIVITIES:



DEVELOPED ACTIVITIES UNTIL DECEMBER 2021:



Project: Increasing access to justice for victims of crime through the provision of free legal aid**Donor: Austrian Development Cooperation is implemented by UNDP in partnership with the Ministry of Justice****Period: November 2021 –October 2022**

The project "Increasing access to justice for victims of crime through the provision of free legal aid" is implemented by the Organization "Different & Equal", as part of the Project "Expanding the service of free legal aid for women and men in Albania". which is being implemented by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in partnership with the Ministry of Justice and with the financial support of the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC).

Project activities:

- 1 - Providing free legal aid through professional lawyers to crime victims (at least 200 beneficiaries assisted with primary legal aid services and 40 of them with primary and secondary legal aid).
- 2 - Publication of a practical guide for lawyers, based on successful models (at least 3 different models of representation) of primary and secondary legal aid for different groups of crime victims.
 - 2.1 – Research on the legal framework, including international acts and domestic legislation governing the rights of crime victims, including the right to free legal aid.
 - 2.2 - Selection and preparation of 3 different models of primary and secondary legal aid representation as good practices for representing the interests of crime victims.
- 3 - Creation of the national network of "pro-bono" lawyers for providing free legal aid to victims of crime (at least 30 lawyers and jurists) at the national level.
 - 3.1 - Organization of 12 informative sessions (in 12 regions of the country) for the presentation of initiative for the creation of the national network of "pro-bono" lawyers.
 - 3.2 – The organization of three thematic workshops (online activities) with the participation of to the lawyers of the "pro-bono" mechanism network.

Coordination and cooperation with other actors in the anti-trafficking field

D&E has continued cooperation and coordination with all Institutions, agencies and NGOs active in the field of the fight against human trafficking and in particular for the protection of victims of trafficking.

During this period, D&E attended several activities (trainings, conferences, tables, seminars, information sessions) developed online and with physical presence. Also, in the activities developed by D&E, it is intended to have an inclusive participation, considering the activities as a very good instrument to consolidate the network of collaborators and to improve the interaction between them in the function of a coordinated response as best as possible.

Activities and trainings developed

Capacity building trainings

"Different & Equal" organization, in cooperation with the Institutional Coordination Directorate / Coordination and Studies Sector - General Prosecutor's Office and ZKKA- The Ministry of the Interior has developed:

6 Trainings on "The rights of victims of criminal offences, victims of trafficking and their reintegration", held in the cities of Kukës, Lezhë, Fier, Durrës and Shkodër.

91 Participants - Representatives of law enforcement institutions

Focus: Victims' rights and increased cooperation between Institutions and agencies responsible for the protection of victims of trafficking.

During the 6 trainings, 2 representatives of the Directorate of Institutional Coordination / Coordination and Studies Sector - General Prosecutor's Office also participated, as collaborators in the realization of these activities. Their participation served to highlight the role of victim coordinators, a new function established at District Prosecutor's Offices. The creation of this structure will serve to facilitate communication with the Prosecution Institution for better coordination in order to protect the rights of victims of criminal offenses, including victims of trafficking.

6 Trainings on the topic "Identification, referral and protection of victims/potential victims of trafficking" "Management of VT/VMT cases and their reintegration" with 112 professionals from Elbasan, Korca, Tropoja and Shkodra districts.

The training for *"Standard Action Procedures for the protection of victims of trafficking and case management"* dated 29.06.2021, D&E, in cooperation with the Municipality of Shkodër, developed. 12 employees of the social services of the Municipality of Shkodër and school psychologists participated in this training.

D&E in cooperation with the Municipality of Lezhë and Durrës organized **2 trainings** on **"Raising the capacities of professionals at the local level to provide assistance to the reintegration of returned migrants"**. Participants in these trainings were 32 professionals representing local institutions, the Municipality, Regional Employment Offices, the Police Directorate, the Prosecutor's Office, NGOs. The purpose of the training was to increase the coordination and improvement of the network of Institutions and other agencies at the local level, engaged in the referral and protection of victims of crimes, including the cases of returned migrants. The trainings were organized within the project **"Reintegration Program for Migrants Returned to Albania" financed by GIZ.**



On November 22, the organization "Different & Equal" in collaboration with the University of Bedfordshire, Safer Young Lives Research Center (SYLRC) in the United Kingdom held a Virtual Event within the "High-level meeting of the General Assembly on the progress achieved in the implementation of of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, November 22-23, 2021" with the theme "Facilitating action research with the participation of young sexual violence and survivors of trafficking" with the aim of researching the perspectives of young people in Albania regarding seeking help and justice after experiencing sexual violence.

Manuals, Guides and other materials - Publications

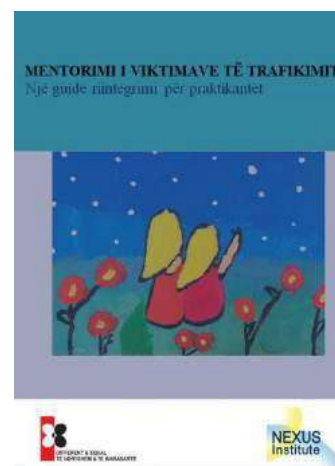
D&E in collaboration with the Nexus Institute has prepared three guidelines for the reintegration of victims of trafficking on various aspects of recovery and reintegration, including:



**Phases of recovery
and reintegration
of victims of
trafficking**



**Supporting children
of victims of
trafficking**

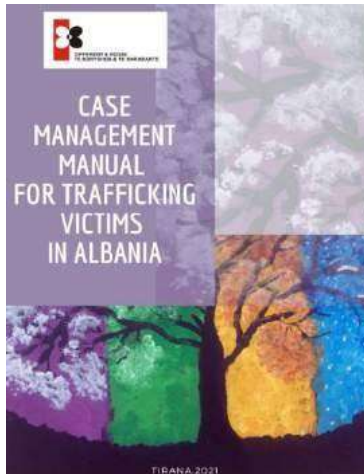


**Mentoring victims of
trafficking**

After the preparation of the Guide, the workshop "Presentation and discussion of the guidelines for the reintegration of victims of trafficking" was held, where 40 partner professionals and colleagues from state institutions, NGOs, PMF, KKSAT member shelters participated, who shared the recommendations and their suggestions in completing these guides.

*This series of reintegration guides for professionals is
a practical resource that reintegration professionals can use in their work
daily for the reintegration of victims of trafficking.*

D&E has prepared the "Model for the re/integration of survivors of gender-based violence". The design of the model was preceded and based on the study **"Reintegration of survivors of gender-based violence"**.



VIDEO



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=neAFZCsUQJI&t=8s>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8cG0AL24Cc0>



<https://www.facebook.com/DifferentEqual/videos/533578754530292>



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